National Congress Bulletin

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Dear P.T.A. President:

THE MOST TRULY REPRESENTATIVE FESTIVAL of our United States, Thanksgiving, is only a calendar's turn away. Thus it is inevitable that you and I meet here to give some timely thought to our many reasons for mutual thankfulness.

» First of all, I want you to know that **you** are one of my reasons for heartfelt gratitude. You, the P.T.A. president, are contributing to your community the greatest of all services: leadership in securing for its children and youth an environment that will help them to become the sturdy and responsible adult citizens which we so urgently need—citizens strong in body, active in mind, and warm in heart.

» I know you will use all of the experience and background offered by our organization to help you in your work and to enable other leaders and members to keep their sights on our true objectives. Please be thankful for the trust placed in you by your community and for the champions you have in the great national and state congresses that steadfastly support you.

» At station KVOO-TV in Tulsa during the Oklahoma Congress convention. From left: Mrs. Raymond H. Looney, Tulsa Council radio and television publicity chairman; Mrs. James C. Parker; and Bob Shaw, Channel 2 newscaster.

» My appreciation increases continually for this really amazing parent-teacher organization, which could have grown and flourished only in our country. Through its offices and its programs it has proved undeniably that communities can work together to build that "great reservoir of caring," of which Bonaro Overstreet once wrote—ever watchful care about children, the homes they live in, the schools they attend.

» Their schools, as you are aware, are the subject of endless comment today—whether or not they should return to the old days of teaching only reading, writing, and arithmetic; whether or not it is practical to hold to the great dream of an education that has meaning for every child, no matter what his type and ability; whether or not any of the educational practices of other countries should be adopted.

» Although all this questioning is cause for concern, let us be thankful that most of it is occasioned by desires to have schools of superior quality. In our quest for the best, however, we must not lose sight of our need for schools suited to the aims, ideals, and purposes of our own way of life.

» If we have discovered ways of teaching that are better than those of yesteryear, we can be thankful. If we can continue to discover how and where to improve, let us be thankful. If the P.T.A. can be helpful, once again let us be thankful. But let us apply all our wisdom, courage, judgment, and knowledge to whatever needs to be done, if it is only to stand firm in the face of occasional but sometimes uninformed and unreasoning criticisms.

» It may be that our latest Congress publication, "Looking In on Your School: Questions To Guide P.T.A. Fact Finders," will be useful to you and your school administration as you work together to extend educational opportunities for children. We think you will be thankful for its timeliness.

Sincerely yours,

Laula C. Parker

MRS. JAMES C. PARKER, President
National Congress of Parents and Teachers

COUNCILS IN ACTION . . .

P.T.A. SERVICES ARE UNITED THROUGH COUNCIL CONFERENCE AND COOPERATION

Valley Area Council • Ohio • To promote interest in parent education and provide the necessary know-how for units desiring to start study-discussion groups, the council sponsored a thirteen-week TV series over educational station WCET-TV in Cincinnati.

The series opened with a panel discussion on "Why Parent Education?" and then devoted several programs to study-discussion groups: how to form them, resources, and discussion and leadership techniques. Others covered such topics as "Your Child from 1 to 12," "The Child and His Money," and "Sibling Rivalries."

Various methods were used to present the topics: panel discussions, demonstrations (a "crack team" from Roselawn P.T.A. demonstrated study-discussion techniques, for example), lectures by child guidance experts, and presentations of films and an American Theatre Wing play, *Scattered Showers.*

Units that registered for meetings coordinated with the TV showings received work kits containing lecture outlines, study guides, pamphlet material (including the National Congress' *Study-Discussion Group Techniques for Parent Education Leaders),* and subscription blanks to the *National Parent-Teacher.*

New Orleans Council • Louisiana • A certain fleet of camels made news in New Orleans. In fact, the council's bid for attention to its parent education workshops by means of "camel caravan" posters far surpassed expectations. The camel caravan, heavily laden with state and national publications, made its way via bulletin boards in every school in the city to any P.T.A. group that wanted information on the various subjects involved in parent education. Traveling along with the caravan, of course, were parent education chairmen and other P.T.A. leaders, who had equipped themselves with the necessary study-discussion techniques at preliminary council-sponsored meetings. A number of other experts stood ready to embark at any time.

Detroit Council • Michigan • Each year students from the Wayne State University Theatre tour the schools of metropolitan Detroit with a dramatization of a children's classic. The Detroit Council handles all arrangements for ushers, publicity, use of auditoriums, and so forth, and is responsible for the sale of tickets. With the price kept so low (30 cents) that most children can attend, approximately 25,000 youngsters see a play during its season.

The council feels that this is an especially worthwhile project, reports Mrs. C. E. Burke, 1957–58 play production chairman, because it serves several purposes: It gives children a chance to see good plays at a cost not prohibitive to most. It offers an opportunity for cooperation between the council and the schools. It draws all the local units into the one council money-making project each year. And it gives Wayne University drama students an opportunity to put their classwork into practice.

Norfolk City Council • Virginia • The council, realizing the importance of proper P.T.A. procedure, for the past two years has had a standing committee on parliamentary procedure instruction. The committee organizes both fundamental and advanced classes for interested members from local units, and a special night course has been set up for men.

Rocky River Council • Ohio • Parents who wanted to know "How well can I expect my child to read?" got answers from an expert during the annual joint meeting of Rocky River P.T.A.'s, sponsored by the council. Edna Horrocks, directing supervisor of language arts in the Cleveland schools, discussed the varying abilities of children to learn and factors at home and in school that relate to success in reading. She used charts to demonstrate the problems involved in beginning reading and also showed slides of a program designed to improve reading ability.

© *Care Photo*

• These smiling youngsters are enjoying a rare treat. The shipment of books came to them in Mexico through the CARE Children's Book Program, one of the sponsors of which is the National Congress of Parents and Teachers.

National Parent-Teacher PROMOTION NEWS POINTERS FOR P.T.A.'s

'Twas a Fine August Day in Alabama

● Each month a total of 6,895 more *National Parent-Teacher* Magazines are Alabama-bound this year as a result of one day's effort—Alabama's NPT (*National Parent-Teacher*) Day, August 20.

Helping to swell the subscription figure were the efforts of sixty units that were observing NPT Day for the first time and sales records such as that reported by the Bessemer City Council—576 subscriptions secured in the one-day push.

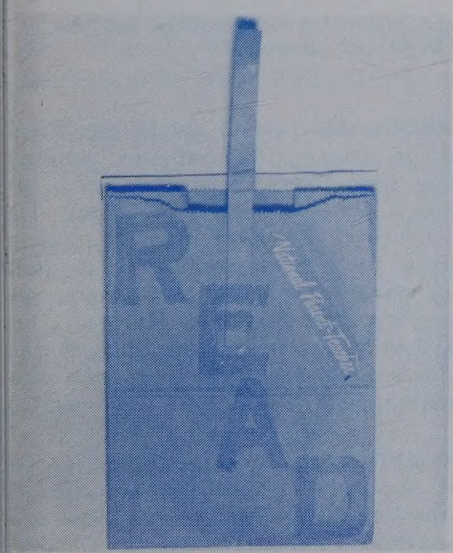
"Salute to Teachers Week" was another event that boosted sales in Alabama. A substantial number of units expressed appreciation to their teachers by giving them NPT subscriptions, reports Mrs. B. H. Johnson, Jr., state chairman.

The Sky Is the Limit

● A Magazine exhibit at the Oregon convention was intended to put more study groups into successful orbit. Displaying a large "rocket" (made from a stovepipe), it focused attention on the unlimited help to be gained from "Safe Launchings, Happy Landings," the 1958–59 NPT study-discussion program.

Unbeatable Combination

● "There has never been a promotion 'gimmick' that could beat person-to-person salesmanship," writes Mrs. Evan L. Davis, Oklahoma Magazine chairman, in the state bulletin. Time after time, she says, the award-winning units are those that get as many people as possible to tell others about NPT.



● The Kansas Magazine chairman, Mrs. Ronald Moore, carries her supplies in a shopping bag like this whenever she contacts potential NPT subscribers at their homes or at meetings. Her slogan is "You don't have to shop! Just stop! Buy 'National Parent-Teacher.'"

Make Your Point with Pictures

● As one picture is reputedly worth a thousand words, Mrs. Hansel Lord, Florida Congress Magazine chairman, writing in the state bulletin, gives some ideas on promoting with pictures. Among her suggestions:

Ask a local photographer to enlarge Magazine covers to use for posters or exhibits and to display in store windows.

Have some *National Parent-Teacher* covers framed to hang in the P.T.A. meeting room.

Mount an entire issue of the Magazine (using two copies to get both sides of each page) on poster board for exhibit at P.T.A. meetings, so members can see at a glance how much valuable material a single issue contains.

A Text for Training Leaders

● Again this fall, as in the past twelve years, the Illinois Congress and the University of Chicago are sponsoring courses to train P.T.A. members in Chicago and its suburbs to become leaders of study groups on parent education. Class discussions are based on articles in the *National Parent-Teacher*. After completing their training, the leaders will be assigned to P.T.A.'s with twenty parents who'd like to form a study-discussion group.

Bouquets from Board Members

● The NPT exhibit at the Arkansas Congress convention highlighted the fact that a large number of state board members were NPT subscribers. Enthusiastic comments from each board member were a part of the display—such comments as: "Subscribed for 32 years." "I cannot imagine how any officer, much less a state board member, could do without it." "I'm in the hospital but have my Magazine with me!"

Around the World with NPT

● After a briefing on President Eisenhower's People-to-People Friendship Program, Catherine Beachley, international relations chairman of the Washington County (Maryland) Council, got busy. She asked each local unit in the county to support the program by sending an NPT gift subscription to an overseas neighbor.

The 41 units responded to the call 100 per cent, reports Mrs. Robert Snyder, council Magazine chairman. Most of them discovered they didn't need to look far afield for names of persons abroad to whom to send the subscriptions. For instance, the president of one P.T.A. had a news reporting sister in Turkey; another unit sent a subscription to one of its schoolteachers who was living in Germany as an exchange teacher; in still another unit a member worked with an engineer whose wife and children lived in Holland.

A pictured story of this project won first prize among the exhibits at the Maryland Congress' summer conference. The prize was five free NPT subscriptions, which the council lost no time in sending to recent visitors to the county's schools from Central America, Africa, Asia, and France.

P.S. Don't you know someone who would enjoy an NPT Overseas Gift Subscription?

They Knew What They Liked

● The *Maine Parent-Teacher* for April-May had a simple but effective way of promoting NPT: It printed the opinions of several state officers on what they "liked best" in the February and March issues of the Magazine. Spurring many a non-NPT-reader to take a first look at the Magazine were "capsule comments" from two vice-presidents and three committee chairmen.

It's a Fact!

● A memo to local presidents from the Hawaii Congress *Newsletter:* "Your P.T.A. program will take on new vitality and depth if each member of your executive committee is a subscriber to the *National Parent-Teacher*—and your own job of explaining will be cut in half."

COMING IN THE DECEMBER NATIONAL PARENT-TEACHER

Visit to Russia: An American Educator Views Soviet Education by Herold C. Hunt

Signals of Mental Distress in Adolescence by Raymond E. Robertson, M.D.

Dealing with Discipline: Try These Techniques by Lloyd Lovell

Three Faces of Crippling by Thomas M. Rivers, M.D.

How a Sagebrush Became a Christmas Tree by Anna H. Hayes

Four-Lane Highway to Health by Eugene H. Guthrie, M.D.

P.T.A. BULLETIN BOARD

BRIEF ITEMS OF CURRENT INTEREST

● **"THANK YOU HEARTILY** for the English books you sent us," wrote thirteen-year-old Barbara Reimann from West Berlin, Germany. She was referring to books that were sent by the National Congress, through the CARE Children's Book Fund, to a neighborhood center she frequents. Barbara's letter was written mostly in German, but she included a paragraph in English to prove that she's learning the language. Two of the directors of West Berlin neighborhood homes also sent warm thanks and reported that German children are eager to read books and magazines from the United States.

● **A WORKSHOP FOR CADET PRINCIPALS** sponsored by the Ohio Congress and the Columbus public schools has strengthened the fine spirit of cooperation that exists between the schools and the P.T.A.'s in Columbus. Purpose of the two-day workshop was to acquaint new principals with P.T.A. background, organization, policies and procedures, services, and publications. Typical of the principals' comments is this one: "Thanks to your well-organized workshop, I feel that working with the P.T.A. will not be a problem but something to look forward to!"

● Responsible for planning the workshop for cadet principals in Columbus, Ohio, were (from left) C. L. Dumaree, assistant superintendent, Columbus public schools; Mrs. Ralph H. Davidson, then Ohio Congress chairman of parent and family life education; Mrs. Russell S. Moore, president of the Ohio Congress; Harold H. Eibling, superintendent, Columbus public schools; Mrs. Merritt E. Warner, president, Columbus Council; and Mrs. Walter W. Denney, director, Central District, Ohio Congress.

● **AN ENCLOSED SCHOOL PARKING AREA,** where students' bikes and scooters are safe from vandalism and theft, was built by the Monroe Junior High P.T.A., Albuquerque, New Mexico. The unit raised nearly $600 for the project, and the Albuquerque board of education assisted by providing labor.

● Four officers of the Monroe Junior High School P.T.A. make final plans for the school parking area fund raising: Left to right, Mrs. Glen Krauth, publicity chairman; Lloyd S. Pond, president; Charles E. Spriggs, first vice-president; and Mrs. H. N. Still, secretary.

● **HOME SAFETY PROGRAMS** carried out by the Woodruff School P.T.A. in Logan, Utah, attained national distinction when they were given a full-page story in the *Home Safety Review* of the National Safety Council. The programs, suggested early in December in letters to members, took the place of the regular monthly P.T.A. meeting. Families were asked to hold individual home sessions on the theme "Accidents Don't Just Happen. They Are Caused!" Follow-up questionnaires showed that families had used the suggested topics and program ideas for 157 home evenings, with 564 persons participating.

● **A CAMPAIGN TO ENROLL** every businessman, professional leader, and responsible citizen was launched by three P.T.A.'s in the Valparaiso-Niceville (Florida) area last spring. The mayors of the two communities cooperated by issuing a joint proclamation declaring "P.T.A. Community Participation Month." Community coordinator for the three units—the Eglin Air Force Base and Niceville elementary schools and the C.W. Ruckel Junior High School—was Mrs. Jane Wojsko, then membership chairman of the Ruckel P.T.A.

• **VANDALISM ON HALLOWEEN** has practically disappeared in the vicinity of the Shumway Junior High School (Vancouver, Washington) since the school's P.T.A. inaugurated Halloween fairs in 1949. This past year nearly three thousand boys and girls were entertained in the school building from 7 to 11 o'clock. The lower floor was given over to exhibits and free entertainment, and the upper floor was fixed up as the midway. Scrip for the midway fun and the donated food was sold during the evening.

• **AS ITS PROJECT FOR THE YEAR,** the Noank P.T.A. (Connecticut) set up a library in the school. Practically every member helped in some capacity or other. Fathers painted the library room; some members catalogued books and arranged them on shelves; others helped plan and stage a book fair to raise funds for more books. Now that the library is in operation, parents also serve as librarians three days a week. Members feel their efforts are well rewarded when they note that, with school enrollment at about 175, weekly circulation of books is more than 160.

• **TO INSURE EARLY RETURN OF YOUNGSTERS** to their homes after Halloween parties at public school playgrounds, the Chicago board of education inaugurated the "telephone game." In order to play the game, boys and girls had to hurry home to be on hand to answer the telephone in case their numbers were chosen to win prizes. The prizes were donated by P.T.A.'s, other civic organizations, and merchants, and P.T.A.'s assisted the school board with arrangements for the game.

• **BECAUSE THERE WERE NO SIDEWALKS** in the vicinity of the Stuttgart (Arkansas) Elementary School, children had to walk in the streets and through ditches. Concerned about the danger, the school's P.T.A. invited the mayor, the school board, and city council members to a meeting to discuss a sidewalk building program. The unit took the initiative in urging all property owners in the area to consent to the new sidewalks. Convinced of citizen interest, the city council approved the program. The result: 19,000 feet of sidewalks that lead children safely to and from school.

• **"CURRICULUM—PATHWAY TO THE FUTURE"** was the theme of the second annual "Little White House Conference" sponsored by the Waverly Park P.T.A. (East Rockaway, New York) for parents and teachers in the Lynbrook School District. The approximately 400 persons who attended the all-day workshop could choose to participate in one of four forums, each conducted by a panel of experts: "The Talented Child," "Homogeneous vs. Heterogeneous Groupings," "The Effective Use of Special Services," and "Education for Living, or the Three R's?" In the evening, the forum findings were summarized by Herbert C. Clish, Lynbrook superintendent of schools.

HUMAN RIGHTS DAY—*December 10, 1958*

Tenth Anniversary of

Universal Declaration of Human Rights

• Why does the Liberty Street School P.T.A., Nyack, New York, have no difficulty in getting members to come to meetings on time? Because Principal Francis H. Campbell, a camera fan, takes pictures of the children at school and gives a fifteen-minute showing at the beginning of every P.T.A. meeting.

© *Stockmeyer*

• **HERE'S HOW THE P.T.A. IN A SMALL TOWN** was given proof of its value to the community: Noticing the names of civic organizations posted on the main roads into town, P.T.A. members reasoned that the P.T.A. should be listed too. "After all," they said, "aren't we performing as important a service for our community as the other organizations appearing out there?" In a poll the town's people agreed that the P.T.A. should head the list!

• **WHEN THE BOOKMOBILE AND THE LIBRARY** of Calloway County, Kentucky, were forced to close because of lack of interested promoters, the reading and library service committee of the Murray High School P.T.A. went into action. As a result of its efforts, the bookmobile is again making its rounds of county schools and the library has reopened its doors in the county courthouse.

• **A PLAYGROUND TRAIN**—a fascinating train-like series of playing areas—is scoring a big hit with youngsters at the Salem Elementary School, Hagerstown, Maryland. The wooden "train" was built by the P.T.A., with an investment of $150 in materials and 350 hours in voluntary effort.

LEGISLATION RECOMMENDATIONS

FOR STATE CONGRESSES • 1958–1959

THE following *suggested areas* for study and action involve *state and local legislation* rather than federal laws. Passage of sound state laws and local ordinances is but the first step, however. Interest should be sustained in order to ensure high standards of administration and enforcement.

Child Labor Laws

• Federal control of child labor, which is administered through the federal Fair Labor Standards Act, applies only to industries engaging in interstate commerce or producing goods for shipment in interstate commerce. Other than this, each state makes and enforces its own child labor laws.

The federal Fair Labor Standards Act, as amended, gives the federal government authority to prohibit the employment of children under sixteen in any state while school is in session. The children of migrant workers present the greatest problem in this field. Eleven occupations have been declared hazardous for children under eighteen and are closed to them. There is no protection under this law for newsboys.

State congresses are urged not only to bring their state laws up to the standards of the federal Fair Labor Standards Act but also to be alert to defeat attempts to weaken existing state child labor statutes.

Children of Agricultural Migrant Workers

• Seasonal agricultural labor is important to the economy of many states, and the crops harvested by this labor force are vital to the health and welfare of the American people. It has been estimated that annually as many as one million children suffer the disadvantage of following the crops. Because their families move from state to state, these children fail to receive the education, health, safety, and welfare services available to resident children. They are generally not well accepted in the communities through which they pass, with the result that their education is sketchy, they are missed in immunization campaigns, their remediable defects are not cared for, they often suffer from severe malnutrition, and many are illegally employed. Even the limited services available to nonresidents often fail to reach them.

This complex problem requires study and teamwork for solution. The services of state departments of education, public health, and public welfare, and of state labor commissioners are involved as well as those of local communities and private agencies. Some cooperative arrangements with other states may be desirable.

It is suggested that state congresses study the situation of migrant children within their states, and that each congress work in cooperation with its state governor and appropriate agencies in developing programs to meet the needs of these children.

Community Safety

• Community surveys should be undertaken to the end that appropriate legislation may be enacted to safeguard children from hazards such as unused wells; abandoned buildings; iceboxes and other airtight chests; unprotected quarries and pits; and irrigation ditches in residential areas. Appropriate legislation may be needed to protect juveniles from undesirable environmental factors such as pornographic literature and materials or the sale of switchblade or gravity knives.

Correlative Efforts for Child Welfare Legislation

• The Board of Managers recommends that state congresses work for the establishment of a state commission or council composed of representatives of state agencies and organizations concerned with the welfare of children and youth. Such a commission or council can be most effective in coordinating efforts to secure legislation needed to improve services for children and youth.

Fire Prevention

• Because of the great losses in human lives and property each year through fires, the Board of Managers recommends that state congresses give full cooperation to governors, mayors, school superintendents, and all officials in the fields of education, engineering, and enforcement in putting into effect these recommendations of the President's Conference on Fire Prevention:

Study of existing building codes.

Strengthening of state-wide fire prevention laws.

Fireworks

• On July 1, 1954, federal legislation became effective, prohibiting transportation of fireworks into any state in which sale or use of such fireworks is prohibited by state law. The federal law does not affect state laws regulating sale, use, manufacture, or possession of fireworks but is intended to prevent circumvention of such statutes. State congresses will know whether or not such legislation governing sale or use of fireworks is in effect in a given state. Only a few states allow such sale and use of fireworks. This is a challenge.

Juvenile Detention

• The Board of Managers urges each state congress to study conditions under which juveniles are detained in court custody and then determine whether state or local legislation is needed to improve these conditions or more adequately protect the interests of the children and youth who are affected by the conditions.

In seeking to improve protective services for children and youth, there are several areas in which every state should be concerned. When is detention necessary? Is the practice abused? Do your grand juries, probation commission, or other groups having official status make periodic investigations and reports?

What is the definition of a "child" so far as arrest and detention are concerned, and is the definition uniform throughout the state? What is the philosophy underlying detention of juveniles in your state? Is it designed to be custodial, punitive, or rehabilitative? How long are juveniles held in custody before court hearings?

Are children who are neglected or dependent because of home situations separated from those held for delinquencies? Is the same true of transient children and those held as material witnesses? Are juvenile offenders segregated from adult inmates?

Do you encourage local units to visit jails and juvenile halls (or detention centers) to evaluate facilities and program? Are standards set by local or state authorities for the facilities in which these juveniles are held and for the personnel who administer them?

Is there a state agency especially concerned with youthful offenders?

he answers to these questions should indicate whether etter laws, better administration, or greater public under- anding of the problem is needed in your state.

egal Bases for Adoption and Guardianship of Minors

Adoption is an important part of modern social process. ore than half our states have emphasized this with new or nended adoption laws. Continuing concern with this oblem is expressed by the Board of Managers of the ational Congress through the recommendation that the gislation committee of each state congress continue care- l review of the current and proposed state legislation r adoption and guardianship of minors.

bjectives of adoption laws should be to provide protec- on for:

The child from unnecessary separation from parents, from adoption by unfit persons, and from interference in adoptive home.

The own parent from hurried decisions to yield child.

The adoptive parents from hereditary defects of child and from disturbance by natural parents.

Assurance of inheritance rights of all adopted children.

mong the principles of adoption that help to achieve the ove objectives are included:

Preservation of the child's identity without stigma.

Examination of adoption placements by qualified social agency on behalf of the court.

Safeguarding the new parental rights by termination of own parent rights.

Adoption proceedings held in home state of petitioners for adoption, in their local community, and in court with jurisdiction over children's cases.

Court hearings and records held confidential.

Consent to adoption obtained from natural parents or person or agency legally responsible.

Provision for trial period of adoptive residence, including visits by authorized agency representative.

e Board recommends further that the significant gains ade in the legal bases and practices for adoption and ardianship of minors during the past decade be the basis r continued emphasis in this area.

her principles of adoption and related information are to found in such sources as:

Essentials of Adoption Law and Procedure. Washington, D. C.: Children's Bureau Publication No. 331, U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, 1949.

Guardianship: A Way of Fulfilling Public Responsibility for Children. Washington, D. C.: Children's Bureau Publication No. 330, 1949.

Social Work Year Book. New York: National Association of Social Workers, 1957.

Library Services

● The Library Services Act became Public Law on June 19, 1956. State congresses should know whether their departments of education are planning to use federal Library Services Act monies and whether plans have been formulated and/or submitted for matching funds. Furthermore, a state congress may be helpful in creating public opinion within a state or territory to secure the needed matching funds. The Library Services Act is a demonstration program, planned for a five-year period.

Narcotics Control

● State congresses may find a great need to encourage state and local action to secure adequate state laws and county and local ordinances for the control of the drug traffic and the enforcement of such legal controls as now exist.

National Defense Education Act of 1958

● The National Defense Education Act of 1958 was passed by the Eighty-fifth Congress, signed by the President, and is now Public Law 864.

The Act is a complicated one and to become effective will require study and action by state legislatures. State congresses have a particular challenge to create public understanding of the services offered by this law and to stimulate action necessary to implement its provisions.

Safety

Laws Governing Traffic Safety

● Because of the ever increasing number of highway traffic accidents, the Board of Managers recommends that each state congress work for:

Enactment of state driver-licensing laws conforming to national standards, to the end that every driver of an automotive vehicle may be physically, mentally, and emotionally fit to drive and fully aware of his responsibility to the public as the operator of a motor car.

Enactment of modern, comprehensive, and uniform traffic laws and ordinances based on the Uniform Vehicle Code and the Model Traffic Ordinance, both available from the National Committee on Uniform Traffic Laws and Ordinances, Sheraton Building, 711 Fourteenth Street, N.W., Washington 5, D. C.

Requirement that all owners of motor vehicles carry such public liability and property damage insurance—or prove personal responsibility—as will give proof of their ability to pay for personal injury or property damage caused by motor vehicles owned or operated by them.

Provision of budget and personnel organization adequate to enforce laws governing traffic safety.

Driver Education

● State congresses should be alert to the ever increasing need for legislation for driver education.

School Lunch

● State funds to match federal funds for the school lunch program should be appropriated by state legislatures. State congresses should exercise their influence in securing these funds.

▶ With victory over polio in sight, the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis has announced an expanded program and name changed to The National Foundation.

While continuing its polio responsibilities, the Foundation will enlarge its virus disease program, explore frontiers of knowledge in arthritis and birth defects, and investigate disorders of the central nervous system.

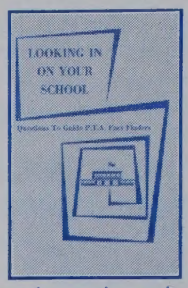
Facilities and care for sufferers of arthritis and rheumatism—which cripple and disable millions of persons in the U.S. today—are limited. The cause is unknown in most cases, and there is no known cure. The problem of congenital malformations caused by prebirth influences is growing steadily; 1 in 16 children are born each year with a significant malformation.

Efforts will be stepped up to train more research scientists, physicians, and health personnel; far greater numbers will be needed in the broadened program of medical research, patient care, and professional education.

More detailed information on The National Foundation program is to be found in the *Leader's Alert*, published by the Foundation and available to leaders of such organized groups as the P.T.A. Write to The National Foundation at 800 Second Avenue, New York 17, New York.

LOOKING IN ON YOUR SCHOOL:

Questions To Guide P.T.A. Fact Finders



● Through sharply focused questions grouped under fourteen headings, this new and timely pamphlet directs attention to the aims, practices, and resources generally considered characteristic of good schools. It will enable P.T.A. school study groups to locate the strengths and weaknesses of their school in order to preserve the strengths and correct the weaknesses. If quality in education is what we seek, this booklet will accelerate our efforts to achieve it. Copies have been sent FREE to:

- National Board of Managers
- State board members
- State district and council chairmen
- Chief state school officers
- Executive secretaries of state education associations
- Editors of state education journals
- 43,292 P.T.A. presidents
- 100 copies to each state congress

Additional copies may be purchased from the state congress or from the National Congress. Price per copy: 35 cents.

Girl Scout TV Series

● "Adventuring in the Hand Arts," a ten-week series of half-hour programs designed "to stimulate Girl Scout troops and leaders to new approaches in the art field," is being presented by the Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. over the 31 educational TV stations now operating in this country. The programs are produced in the National Broadcasting Company studios and distributed through the Educational Television and Radio Center, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

As this series may be of particular interest to P.T.A. members, check with your Girl Scout council to find when the series can be seen locally.

MEMBERSHIP MONTH MAKES NEWS

▶ P.T.A. Membership Month was widely publicized both in the newspapers and on radio and TV broadcasts during October.

The Associated Press and the United Press-International carried stories about the P.T.A. membership program to their newspaper clients throughout the United States and Canada, and hundreds of smaller dailies and weeklies made prominent use of the mat that was sent to them from the National Office.

Among the radio and television programs that saluted Membership Month were these:

National Broadcasting Company: Radio, "Monitor"; television, the Ellery Queen and the Eddie Fisher shows. (The "Monitor" show carried spot announcements during each of its 72-hour week-end broadcasts in October.)

Mutual Broadcasting System: Radio, spot announcements.

Columbia Broadcasting System: Radio and television, Arthur Godfrey; radio, Robert Q. Lewis.

American Broadcasting Company: Television, Peter Lind Hayes show.